

MINUTES OF THE SIXTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

16 March 1956

Present

Members: John Lacey, State
Richard Bauer, Army
John Shearer, Navy

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Consultants:

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1. The 67th meeting convened at 1400 hours. The minutes of the 66th meeting were approved with the following emendations:

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a. Page 3, paragraph 3: [REDACTED] comments should read, "abstracts of certain selective USSR periodical publications in the fields of research and development, and technology, particularly those publications which include information in categories assigned under the program subject Electronics."

b. Page 2, last paragraph: Delete "the abstracting service which has been done under."

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c. Page 3: [REDACTED] statement should read that he "did not want any cut in the Science News Items and he has no requirements other than those previously submitted in his separate statement."

d. Page 1 and 4 of the 65th minutes: On the latter delete "his people" and add "he as the CIA representative would be" unwilling to approve any recommendation to the parent Committee that did not set forth the facts.

2. Consideration of the USSR Program

Acting Chairman noted that in considering the proposed program only the services of FDD were to be considered. References to other facilities were to be deleted in accord with the Committee's decision during the hearings on scientific exploitation.

Army: Mr. Bauer stated that, in general, all the technical services and other Army consumers seem quite happy with the approach as indicated in the proposed program. A number of the technical services requested that transportation and telecommunication be changed from Tab B to Tab A. The major omission from Tabs A and B was that no reference was made to manpower, and this would be of interest not only to Army but also to the IAC. Army would prefer to see it added in Tab A under item 30. In the light of the previous discussion Army feels that civil air transport aviation should be included in the military publication under item 11.

Mr. Bauer asked if he was correct in assuming that the items in Tab A were listed in order of precedence.

Acting Chairman replied that this was not the case in Tab A. The aim is to obtain exploitation in greater depth than has been done heretofore on the highest priority subjects.

Mr. Bauer mentioned a suggestion was made, which might be considered in the final draft, that the subjects could be arranged in the order indicated in the NIS outline, since most of the files in technical services work on an outline which is tied to the NIS schedule.

State: Mr. Lacey stated that State's general feeling regarding the USSR and Satellites is that this statement incorporates some of the weaknesses which have been heretofore noted in discussion of FDD's programming. This is reflected again in Tab B for the USSR and Satellites. There is a great imbalance between that manpower which is devoted to the USSR in contrast to much smaller manpower assigned to the Satellite countries. State previously argued in the light of the rather intensive coverage that the USSR has had by the IAC and in the light also of the rather extensive amount of work outside the government that, particularly in the field of foreign documents exploitation, far greater attention should be given by the IAC to coverage of documents from the Satellites. Another imbalance which is present in Tab A is that existing between coverage of the political topics in contrast to the predominant amount of emphasis on economic topics. State is not disinterested in economic coverage. With respect to FDD's collation effort, Mr. Lacey felt that this is really a useful type of intelligence information, not only for present needs but prepared in a way that remains as useful intelligence information. The "fragmentary" approach is of very little use to State and he doubted that, excepting ORR and Army's technical services, it is generally as useful as collation. Mr. Lacey felt that FDD is not being used most profitably in covering the central press. He felt that the reading and monitoring services cover the central newspapers adequately enough, and FDD's regoing over the central press items is a duplication of effort. He stated that a much more effective effort could be put on periodicals and local press. He

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concluded by saying that to the extent that it would be possible to add some more bodies to FDD, State would still feel that those additional positions should be assigned to (a) Satellites and (b) political topics.

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██████████ commented that FDD personnel allocations are only two to one for economic over political. On collation versus compilation types of reports, ██████████ explained that it was FDD's current practice to publish collated reports on 19 of the 48 subject categories in Tab A. On the central press versus provincial press and periodicals, there are roughly in the program three men at work on provincial newspapers and periodicals to every one on the central press.

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Mr. Lacey mentioned that, not speaking as State's representative but as a personal researcher, the fact isn't to get more newspapers but to get a hard flow of information. He added in the case of FDD products, he thought many times in the course of the Committee hearings it had been noted that the analysts wished there was some way the information they needed could be separated. Therefore for FDD to reproduce again central press items, it only produces more pieces of paper that have to be sifted by the substantive analysts.

Acting Chairman felt that the format and details of the reporting could be worked out if we get the needed categories clearly enumerated.

Navy: Mr. Shearer stated that Navy's general comment was one of satisfaction with Tab A on the USSR. He specified that there was no mention of the subject of shipbuilding, but was however reassured by FDD that the Soviet publications on shipbuilding were being received as of 1956 and would be considered now under item 32.

Mr. Shearer questioned Item 34, Arctic Activities, previously allocated to AID, as this subject was needed by Navy.

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NSA: ██████████ remarked that in general NSA was well satisfied with Tab A on the USSR.

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██████████ concurred with Mr. Shearer regarding the necessity of coverage of Arctic Activities. State, Army, and CIA members concurred in the need for retaining Arctic Activities in Tab A.

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██████████ thought that in pursuit of the functions of this subcommittee it should make a more exhaustive survey of exploitation facilities and above all whether or not these results were being distributed. This would include a number of Air Force and Army projects.

Acting Chairman stated that the "Exploitation Review" would cover the subject.

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██████████ stated that by mutual agreement a great deal of coordination can be achieved and that those engaged in exploitation should check with the other agencies in the same effort.

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██████████ replied that we should have the Air Force in the Far East cover certain publications and sources thus relieving FDD of that load.

Acting Chairman stated that FDD was coordinating this as well as possible but that Air Force was very firm in that the Subcommittee would be usurping its objectives if it in any way directed or rechanneled any of the work of the other agencies.

Mr. Lacey stated that going beyond the review of facilities per se, particularly in the more difficult languages, the IAC should face up to the fact of the necessity of determining what personnel are available and to encourage maximum use of this manpower for general purposes. He pointed out that we have never actually gotten into this facet of the study of this problem and that eventually it probably should be undertaken.

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██████████ discussed the value of the possibility of FDD's extending its coverage by the use of contract facilities and suggested that such a device would be most beneficial.

Mr. Lacey presented the possibility of putting a contract performance into a formal part of the FDD service.

Acting Chairman explained that the reason for establishing a realistic Tab B is to provide the Advisory Committee with a factual picture of what needs to be done that cannot be accomplished with current facilities so that manpower or funds can be recommended to meet the deficiency.

Acting Chairman stated that FDD will meet with State and Army to determine what can be done to readjust the program to best meet the needs expressed by the members so that a satisfactorily revised program can be drafted to meet those needs. He asked that the members review Tab B carefully to see whether any subject has been included which can be dropped and requested that the members indicate their priorities in Tab B so that a collation can be made.

3. The agenda for the next meeting will be the adjustment of Tab B and examination of the Satellites program. FDD will make a review of the manpower allocation of Eastern Europe satellites as requested by CIA.

4. The meeting adjourned at 1540 hours. The next meeting will be held 30 March 1956 at 1400 hours, in Room 2125 M Building.

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